

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /087 W

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R 201416Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3843

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 0746

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA

SUBJECT: HUNT FOR OKAHANDJA KILLERS CONTINUES

REF: 75 PRETORIA 4931

UNCLASSIFIED

1. OVER TWO HUNDRED ARMY, POLICE AND COMMANDO PERSONNEL ARE CONTINUING A MASSIVE SEARCH FOR THE KILLERS OF WHITE FARM COUPLE IN NAMIBIA. THE MURDERS TOOK PLACE THE NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 15 ON A FARM LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 17 MILES WEST OF OKAHANDJA, LESS THAN 50 MILES FROM WINDHOEK. INITIAL PRESS REPORTS LABELED THE INCIDENT AS A "TERRORIST ATTACK" AND STATED THAT THE KILLERS USED "RUSSIAN-TYPE" AUTOMATIC WEAPONS.

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WM POLICE IN WINDHOEK TOLD PRESS THAT TWO BLACK MEN WEARING

DARK CLOTHING BROKE INTO THE FARMHOUSE AND SHOT THE COUPLE BUT DID NOT HARM THEIR TWO YOUNG DAUGHTERS. THE ATTACKERS RANSACKED THE HOUSE AND STOLE AMMUNITION AND A NUMBER OF GUNS. INITIAL REPORTS ERRONEOUSLY INDICATED THAT AT LEAST ONE OF THE KILLERS WORE A CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORM. UNLIKE ATTACK TWO MONTHS AGO ON FARM NEAR GROOTFONTEIN (REFTEL), POLICE WERE NOT ABLE TO FIND IDENTIFIABLE TRACKS TO FOLLOW, AND THIS HAS LED TO SPECULATION THAT KILLERS USED MOTOR VEHICLE FOR TRANSPORT.

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3. EMBASSY CONTACTS IN WINDHOEK SAY THAT SHOOTING, ALTHOUGH AT FIRST CAUSING GREAT CONCERN THAT "TERRORISTS" HAD INFILTRATED SO FAR SOUTH, IS NOW GENERALLY BEING CONSIDERED BY PUBLIC AS THE WORK OF "GANGSTERS" WHO SOMEHOW OBTAINED AUTOMATIC WEAPONS. POLICE APPARENTLY ALSO ARE NOT CONVINCED THAT IT WAS A TERRORIST ATTACK, BUT NEVERTHELESS THEY DETAINED A NUMBER OF SWAPO MEMBERS IN WINDHOEK AREA FOR QUESTIONING. ALL THOSE DETAINED WERE RELEASED AFTER BEING HELD FOR PERIODS RANGING FROM THIRTY MINUTES TO THREE HOURS.

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BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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